



Christopher S. Leah

Senior Associate

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Services

Intellectual Property
Patents
Patent Litigation
ITC Section 337
Post-Grant Proceedings

Industries

Electronics & Computer
Technology
Medical & Surgical Devices
Technology
Retail & Consumer Goods

Chris Leah focuses his practice on intellectual property disputes, including patent litigation in U.S. district courts and the International Trade Commission, post-grant proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, and disputes under Section 1498. Chris is also a registered patent attorney before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Chris has represented clients across a variety of industries involving electrical, mechanical, and software related technologies, including telecommunications, medical devices, textile products, swimming pool equipment, and semiconductors. Chris has significant experience managing and conducting many aspects of litigation, including infringement and validity analyses, motion practice, claim construction, discovery, taking and defending depositions, expert discovery, and pre-trial proceedings. Additionally, he regularly assists and advises clients on a variety of other intellectual property matters, including pre-suit matters, assessments of patent portfolios, patent license agreements, and protections and immunities provided to government contractors under Section 1498.

While attending law school, Chris worked with the firm as a summer associate in 2018 and 2019 on its patent litigation and patent prosecution teams. Chris also served as a student attorney in the Entrepreneurship and Non-Profit Legal Clinic at The University of Alabama School of Law where he provided legal services to small businesses, start-ups and entrepreneurs, nonprofit organizations, inventors, social enterprises, and community development organizations.

While attending undergrad at The University of Alabama, Chris was an undergraduate researcher in Dr. Paul Allison's Advanced Composite Materials Laboratory where Chris studied and prepared literary reviews and journal articles on friction stir welding and additive friction stir deposition as well as the microstructure and mechanical properties of rare earth metal alloys.

Experience

Represented adidas AG, adidas North America, Inc., adidas America, Inc., and adidas International Trading AG in patent infringement and importation investigation at ITC brought by Nike, Inc., related to the design and manufacture of shoe uppers for knitted footwear, with related action in Oregon federal court. One of the largest patent cases in the footwear industry, the case involved nine U.S. patents from multiple distinct families of patents, each covering a different subject matter. After completing both fact and expert discovery, the case was settled on confidential terms shortly before the evidentiary hearing at the ITC. *In re Certain Knitted Footwear*, U.S. ITC Inv. No. 337-TA-1289; *Nike, Inc. v. adidas AG et al.*, No. 3:21-cv-01780 (D. Or.)

Represented Zodiac Pool Systems LLC and Zodiac Pool Care Europe, leading manufacturers and innovators in the pool care industry, in a patent infringement and importation investigation at the International Trade Commission, with a related action in the Central District of California, against Wybotics, Co. Ltd. (d/b/a Winny Pool Cleaner), Tianjin Pool & Spa, Aiper Inc., Aiper Intelligent, LLC, and Shenzhen Aiper Intelligent Co., Ltd. The investigation involved two Zodiac patents covering pioneering technology in robotic pool cleaners. We were able to stop these entities' infringement before trial. Specifically, before the close of fact discovery, Zodiac settled favorably with the Aiper entities on confidential terms, leading to the issuance of a consent order which bars Aiper from importing or selling any of the Accused Products in the United States. Zodiac also obtained sworn representations during discovery from Wybotics that it had completely stopped manufacturing, importing, and selling the Accused Products in the United States. *Certain Robotic Pool Cleaners and Components Thereof*, U.S. ITC Inv. No. 337-TA-1326; *Zodiac Pool Care Europe v. Wybotics, Co. Ltd. et al*, No. 2:22-cv-05271 (C.D. Cal.). We also helped coordinate strategy for a seizure and infringement action in France involving the same products, which remains pending.

Defended Nalu Medical in a patent lawsuit filed by Nevro over spinal cord stimulators, which included injunctive relief to prevent Nalu from commercializing its recently FDA-approved neurostimulation system. On the eve of the claim construction hearing in Delaware, and shortly before the PTAB's institution decision of Nalu's IPR Petition challenging Nevro's patent was due, we obtained a favorable settlement for Nalu. *Nevro Corp. v. Nalu Medical, Inc.*, No. 1-20-cv-00291 (D. Del.) and *Nalu Medical, Inc. v. Nevro Corp.*, IPR2021-01023 (PTAB)

Education

University of Alabama School of Law J.D. (2020)

University of Alabama B.S., Mechanical Engineering (2017) *magna cum laude*

Admissions

Georgia (2021)

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas (2023)

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia (2021)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (2017)

Insights

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126 Kilpatrick Attorneys Named 2024 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars

November 11, 2024

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131 Kilpatrick Attorneys Recognized in 2025 Edition of Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America®

August 16, 2024

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Kilpatrick Elects Partners and Elevates Counsel for 2024

December 29, 2023

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Significant Number of Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Recognized in 2024 Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch

August 17, 2023

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Kilpatrick Townsend Welcomes New Associates

April 15, 2021